

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Before the paragraph starting at page 1, line 1, please insert the following heading:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph starting at page 1, line 18, please insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph starting at page 1, line 3, please insert the following heading:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please cancel the formula beginning on page 3, line 22 and replace it with the following formula:

$$\sigma = r_p + r_s = \frac{\sigma_{01} + \sigma_{12}(1 + \pi_{01})e^{(-2j\beta_1)} + \sigma_{01}\pi_{12}e^{(-4j\beta_1)}}{(1 + r_{01(p)}r_{12(p)}e^{(-2j\beta_1)})(1 + r_{01(s)}r_{12(s)}e^{(-2j\beta_1)})}$$

Before the paragraph starting at page 7, line 24, please insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 29, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

-- - Figure 2 is a schematic representation of a support, according to the invention[[]]; and

- Figures 2A and 2B are schematic representations  
of embodiments of the invention. --

Before the paragraph starting at page 7, line 32,  
please insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line  
5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The sign conventions adopted are those represented  
~~to~~ in Figure 1 and described also in the book of Azzam and  
Bashara entitled "ellipsometry and polarised light", North-  
Holland, p 271.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line  
22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--• By "observation" is meant a direct ocular  
observation through ~~a~~ an instrument or the acquisition of an image  
or of a signal by detection means including a recording device  
such as an analog or digital camera, a CCD array or a measuring  
device such as a detector (photovoltaic cell, photomultiplier) or  
a matrix of detectors (array of photodiodes, CCD, ....) placed in  
a plane where the image of the sample is formed. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--"The convergent axial illumination" is convergent and with radial symmetry around the normal to the surface, defined as "the axis" below in the description, with an opening angle  $[[\theta_{\max}]] \theta_0$ . The angles of incidence partaking of the illumination cone are therefore all the angles ranging between 0 and  $[[\theta_{\max}]] \theta_0$ . --

Please add a paragraph beginning at page 10, line 34:

--With respect to Figures 2A and 2B,  
the invention also concerns an accessory intended for observing a preferably liquid sample formed of a Petri dish and of a support intended for receiving said sample, the support being the bottom of this dish.

The invention also concerns the devices having the following characteristics:

- a device for observing a sample including an optical microscope, a support intended for receiving said sample and two crossed polarisers;

- a device for observing a sample including an optical microscope, an accessory intended for receiving said sample and two crossed polarisers;

- a device for observing a sample including an optical microscope, a support intended for receiving said sample, a polarizer and a quarter-wave plate;

- a device for observing a sample including an optical microscope, an accessory intended for receiving said sample, a polarizer and a quarter-wave plate;

- a device for observing a sample whereof the optical microscope is fitted with a differential interferential contrast device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the particular case where ~~to~~ the first and second polarisers are parallel, it reads:--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--We shall define the coating AR-X-Pol as the layer 2 which enables to ~~transformer~~ transform a given substrate 1 in a support AR-X-Pol.--

Please cancel the formula beginning on page 17, line 5 and replace it with the following formula:

$$\sigma = r_p + r_s = \frac{\sigma_{01} + \sigma_{12}(1 + \pi_{01})e^{(-2j\beta_1)} + \sigma_{01}\pi_{12}e^{(-4j\beta_1)}}{(1 + r_{01(p)}r_{12(p)}e^{(-2j\beta_1)})(1 + r_{01(s)}r_{12(s)}e^{(-2j\beta_1)})} \quad (E19)$$

Please replace the line beginning at page 18, line 16, with the following rewritten line:

--~~Let us remind~~ Recall the Snell relation:  $n_k \sin \theta_k = n_0 \sin \theta_0$ --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This shows that said layer 2 possesses the same properties as the light reflecting from the small index medium to the high index medium or from the high index medium to the ~~mal~~ small index medium.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Thus, one may extinguish the reflection of a polarised light when the substrate 1 is the end of an optical fibre, or a ~~blade~~ waveplate or the bottom of a Petri dish when observed from beneath on a reversed microscope.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- We shall describe here the rules for building supports **AR-X-Pol** formed of a solid substrate 1 covered with a single layer 2 in the general case where the support, the layer 2, and the incident medium 3 have any complex optical indices ~~complexes~~ (possibly absorbent media).--

Please cancel the formula beginning on page 24, line 11 and replace it with the following formula:

$$C_f = \frac{I_F - I_S}{I_F + I_S} \quad (\text{E50})$$

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--If the coating remains ~~up to scratch~~ up to scratch,  $\Delta$  is small, and in such a case  $\varepsilon$  is close to  $\frac{\Delta}{2}$ .--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--when the ~~axe~~ y axis is in the plane of incidence. At the interface between the isotropic medium i and the anisotropic medium j, the coefficients  $r_{ij(px)}$  ,  $r_{ij(sx)}$  ,  $r_{ij(py)}$  and  $r_{ij(sy)}$  are given by--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The support of the invention has been subject to several implementations presented in the following examples for which the random illumination wavelength is, ~~under~~ unless otherwise specified,  $\lambda = 540 \text{ nm}$ .--